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REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful attention to this application.

The Examiner has cited U.S. Patent 5,681,079 (the '079 patent) issued to Robinson as prior art. The '079 patent shows a headrest folding mechanism having first and second pivot assemblies 24, 26. The two pivot assemblies are connected by headrest frame 28 and cross rail 50. The two pivot assemblies have a common axis of rotation, but operate independently. There is no interconnection of any moveable components of the two pivot assemblies. Pawl 72, located on only one of the two pivot assemblies, is used to maintain the headrest in the upright or design position.

The invention claimed in the present application has a rotatable shaft, and thereby has increased stability and uniform motion by both sides of the headrest. Unlike the headrest shown in the '079 patent, the two sides of the headrest will not act independently of each other. Additionally, a clutch located about the rotatable shaft is used to prohibit movement of the headrest from the upright position. If the rotatable shaft is prohibited from moving, neither side of the bun can move.

Claims 1-41

Applicant has incorporated claim 9 into claim 1. As amended, claim 1 now requires, among other things, a rotatable shaft and a bun pivotal about the rotatable shaft.

The '079 patent does not show a rotatable shaft, but rather shows a headrest with two spaced pivot assemblies. The moveable portions of the pivot assemblies are not connected. There is no suggestion in the '079 patent to use any other configuration for the headrest mechanism.

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Claim 2 is now a combination of claims 9 and 10. Claim 2 requires a clutch circumferentially located about the rotatable shaft capable of preventing pivoting of the bun from the extended position. The '079 patent does not show a rotatable shaft, and therefore also does not show a clutch located about the rotatable shaft where the shaft is capable of preventing the bun from pivoting about the rotatable shaft.

Thus, claims 1-41, as amended, are allowable.

Claim 42-58

Applicant has incorporated claims 46, 49 and 51 into claim 42. As amended, claim 42 requires, among other things, the headrest attached to the seatback by a mounting bracket, the headrest having a rotation bracket, the rotation bracket pivotally mounting to the mounting bracket; and a lock attached to the rotatable shaft, the lock capable of being engaged with the mounting bracket to disable rotation of the rotatable shaft.

The '079 patent does not show the rotation bracket, the rotation bracket mounted pivotally to a mounting bracket, and a lock attached to the rotatable shaft, the lock capable of being engaged with the mounting bracket to disable rotation of the rotatable shaft.

Thus, claims 42-58, as amended, are allowable.

Claim 59

Applicant has cancelled claim 59.

Claims 60-85

Applicant has incorporated claims 61 and 62 into claim 60. Claim 70 was amended to clarify that the spring was the same spring as referenced in claim 60.

Claims 60-85, as amended, are therefore allowable over the prior art of record.

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Claims 86-95

Claims 86-95 have been cancelled.

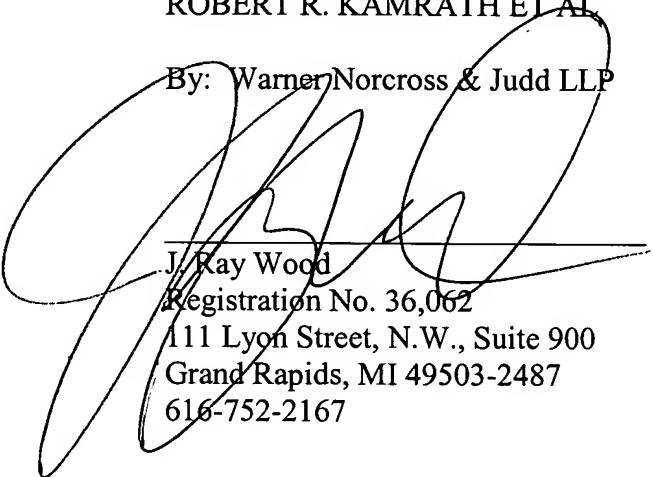
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment and these remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly and respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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